## **Response to the Proposed Lower Thames Crossing Project**

I am writing to express my strong opposition to the proposed Lower Thames Crossing project. While the project aims to improve connectivity and ease congestion, the negative impacts on local communities, particularly in areas like East Tilbury and Linford, are far too significant to ignore.

Both East Tilbury and Linford are small, predominantly residential areas that already face considerable challenges with pollution and inadequate infrastructure. The construction and subsequent operation of the Lower Thames Crossing would exacerbate these issues, bringing further harm to communities already struggling with poor air quality and limited resources.

## **Environmental Concerns:**

The Thames Estuary region, including East Tilbury, is known for its ecological importance, housing diverse wildlife and protected areas. The additional emissions from increased traffic volumes would further pollute an area already suffering from high pollution levels due to existing road networks and nearby industrial activity. This would be detrimental not only to the environment but also to public health, particularly for children and the elderly.

## **Infrastructural Strain:**

The roads in and around East Tilbury and Linford are not equipped to handle significant increases in traffic. The proposed crossing would bring a surge of vehicles, leading to severe congestion on local roads that are already inadequate. This would not only inconvenience residents but also risk cutting off small communities from essential services.

## **Community Impact:**

These are quiet residential areas with a strong sense of community. The construction phase alone would disrupt daily life, with noise, dust, and construction traffic creating a constant nuisance. Long-term, the project threatens to erode the character of these communities, turning them into transit corridors rather than places to live and thrive.

Given the already critical levels of pollution, the lack of infrastructure to support such a project, and the detrimental impact on local communities, I urge decision-makers to reconsider the Lower Thames Crossing proposal. Investments should focus on sustainable transport solutions and improving existing infrastructure rather than introducing a project that would bring more harm than benefit to areas like East Tilbury and Linford. Yours Faithfully,

Sarah Staley